(c) The following schemes sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan are at various stages of implementation by the State Government:—

1. Purchase of mini buses, wagonatee and elephants for Similipal Wildlife Sanctuary

2. Yatri Niwases at Satpada and Konark

3. Wayside facilities at Sunabeda, Taptapani, Angul, Rameshwar and Bhadrak

4. Toilet and drinking water facilities at Bhubaneswar and Konark (through Archaeological Survey of India)

It is expected that the above projects are likely to be completed during 1991-92.

Closing down of Madras Gold Collection Cum-delivery centre of the Indian Government mints

931. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to close down the Madras Gold Collection-Cum-Delivery Centre of the Indian Government Mints.

(b) whether the South India Jewellers Association has made a request to him in this regard saying that the Centre has been established only recently and that it would pick up business commensurate with its capacity gradually and should, therefore; not be closed; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) At prerent there is no such proposal to close down the Madras Gold-Collection-Cum-Delivery Centre.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Ninth Finance Commission's report

932. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ninth Finance Commission has refused to work out the recommend a scheme of Central transfers on the assumption that past trends would continue, calling it a "futile-exercise" as reported in an article in the Statesman of June 11, 1990;

(b) if so, what is the basis on which Government intend to effect such transfers in the future; and

(c) what decisions Government have taken on the recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) In their concluding observations in para 10.1 of their Second Report, the Ninth Finance Commission have referred *inter alia* to the large and growing deficit on revenue account at the Centre and in the budget of several States and observed "in such a situation any attempt to work out a scheme of Central transfers on the assumption that past trends would or could continue was a futile exercise" The Commission adopted a normative approach as required under their terms of reference.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission (Second Report for the five years period commencing from 1st of April, 1990 have already been accepted by the Government.

Production capacity of security paper mill, Hoshangabad

933. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the capacity and actual production of security and bank note paper at the Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad;

(b) whether it is sufficient to meet the increasng demand for currency and bank notes;

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to meet the increased demand for bank note paper;

(d) whether it is proposed to set up another security paper mill in the country; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The installed capacity of Security Paper Mill for production of security and currency/bank note paper is 6000 M.T. per annum. The actual production is around 4000 M.T. per annum presently.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) The excess demand is currently met by imports. Ministry of Industry has been informed of the need to instal additional capacity for domestic production to meet the growing demand.

Price chnages effected on stainless steel produced at Salem Steel Plant

934. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the number of times price changes were effected during the last five years on stainless steel sheets manufactured at Salem Steel Plant and the reasons therefor in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTERY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): The prices of stainless steel sheets and coils manufactured at Salem Steel Plant, were changed about 22 times during the last five-years, i.e., from 1-4-1985 up to now.

The dates of changes and reasons therefor, in each case, are given in the statement (*See* below). The price changes were necessitated because of factors like changes in excise duty, input cost, changes in the duty structure of inputs like hot bands, competition from domestic producers, imports and generally in response to market conditions. Out of 22 times, prices were reduced five times.

Statement

Dates of changes in the prices of SSP Products and the reasons

Date	Reasons
23-08-1985	Market conditions and cost of inputs.
29-11-1985	Prices adjusted only for 0.3/0.4 mm thickness in view of the market conditions.
13-09-1986	Prices decreased in most of the thicknsees in view of the market situation.
03-06-1987	Prices changed for 1.6 mm by Rs. 1000/- per tonne.
10-10-1987	Market conditions.
12-11-1987	Market conditions.
01-12-1987	Market conditions.
01-03-1988	Changed because of Excise duty.
22-03-1988	Cost escalation and market conditions.
12-04-1988	Cost escalation and market conditions.